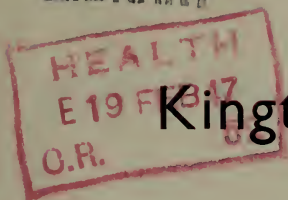


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Kington Rural District

HEREFORDSHIRE



ANNUAL REPORT

ON THE

State of the Public Health

For the Year 1945

Report of the



ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMISSIONER OF EDUCATION

FOR THE YEAR 1900

ALBANY: PUBLISHED BY THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

Staff of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health	...	...	H. F. GREEN, M.A., M.B., D.P.H.
Acting Medical Officer of Health (Deputy County Medical Officer)	...	...	I. F. MACKENZIE, M.D. (Edin)., D.P.H., D.T.M. & H. (Private Tel., Weobley 59)
Clerk	...	...	B. J. SCANDRETT (On War Service from 1939)
Temporary Clerk	...	...	MISS D. M. J. BRAMFITT
Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor (part-time)	...	...	J. P. LINGEN. (Tel. New Radnor 4)

Public Health Office : 4, Church Street, Leominster (Tel., Leom. 95).

To the Chairman and Members of Kington Rural District Council.

MR. CHAIRMAN, MEMBERS,

I present herewith the Annual report for the year, 1945.

At time of writing, your Medical Officer of Health, Dr. H. F. GREEN, has happily returned from service with H.M. Forces and resumed duty.

The arrangements which were made on the eve of his departure in 1942 were designed to provide a means for emergency action in the event of outbreaks of disease ; and also to enable the really essential day to day duties of your health department to be carried on by medical officers experienced in public health, without reducing further the then serious shortage of medical manpower. Events have demonstrated that this scheme, which was conceived under difficult circumstances, was sound ; and though more responsibility fell on your Sanitary Inspector, he, being conscious that he had the support and backing of the considerable resources of the County Council Public Health Department and of the Medical Research Council's Laboratory service, shouldered it the more happily. Gratitude is due to him for his creditable response to the additional calls made on him during these last four years.

I. F. MACKENZIE,
Acting Medical Officer of Health.

November, 1946.

SECTION A. STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

Area (in Acres)	45,544
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1944) according to the Rate Books ...	1,381
Rateable Value	£14,385
Sum represented by a Penny rate	£63 2 0

EXTRACT FROM VITAL STATISTICS OF THE YEAR :

BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 of estimated resident population)	18.4
STILL-BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 Live and Still births)	22.6
DEATH RATE (per 1,000 of estimated resident population)	14.1
INFANTILE MORTALITY RATE (per 1,000 live births)	34.8

MATERNAL MORTALITY : There were no deaths under this heading in 1945.

COMPARABLE DATA FOR ENGLAND AND WALES, 1945 :

Live Birth Rate	16.1
Death Rate	11.4
Infantile Mortality Rate	46.0

SECTION B.—GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES FOR THE AREA.

LABORATORY FACILITIES.

Laboratory facilities continued to be available at the Public Health Laboratory, Hereford, which is at present under the administration of the Medical Research Council.

CLINICS.

There are none provided by the Authority. Under a County Council Scheme a Child Welfare Clinic is held fortnightly in Kington, which residents in the Rural District are invited to attend.

The nearest Venereal Diseases Clinic is at the County Hospital, Hereford.

I am indebted to Mr. J. P. Lingen, Sanitary Inspector to the Council, for the following statement (Sections C to E) furnished under Article 27 (Sub-Section 1st) of the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations.

SECTION C.—SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

WATER : SAMPLING.

Samples are taken as and when required. Most of the villages are dependent upon wells the majority of which are of a shallow type. The village of Pembridge is solely dependent on wells and hand pumps. As there is a Sewage Works here, it is essential that a piped supply be provided as soon as possible. The Consulting Engineer was requested to make a special report on a water supply for Pembridge Village. This report was not available at the end of the year.

DRAINAGE AND SEWAGE.

The villages of Eardisley, Pembridge and Lyonshall have sewage schemes. The first two named have worked satisfactorily throughout the year. The system at Lyonshall needs improvement and a survey has been made with a view of carrying out a new scheme for this village.

RIVERS AND STREAMS.

No pollution that calls for any comment. No complaints were received during 1945.

REFUSE DISPOSAL.

There are three refuse disposal centres which are under the control of the Council and which operate satisfactorily.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

INSPECTIONS.

During the year 782 visits of inspection were made.

Number of Inspections under the Housing and Public Health Acts ...	378
Number of Inspections under Workshops and Factories Acts ...	48
Number of Inspections under the Milk and Dairies Acts	139
Number of Inspections in connection with Water Supplies	54
Infectious Disease and visits in connection therewith	17
Premises and Clothing (lots) disinfected	10

NOTICES ISSUED.

Informal	18
Statutory	Nil
Defects Remedied	18

SECTION D.—HOUSING.

INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1. (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for housing defects under the Public Health and Housing Acts 240
- (b) Number of inspections made for the purpose 245
2. Number of dwelling houses found not to be, in all respects, reasonably fit for human habitation. 54

ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

Proceedings under Public Health Acts :

Number of dwelling houses in respect of which notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	Nil
Number of dwelling houses in which defects were remedied after service of formal notices :	
(a) By Owners	32
(b) By Local Authority in default of Owners	Nil

SECTION E.—INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Thirty-eight Inspections were carried out during the year of premises where meat and other foods are sold by retail. In each instance the shops were clean and well kept.

FOOD FOUND TO BE UNFIT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION.

2 lots of Butcher's Meat	total 129 lbs.
Canned Fruits and Meats	total 8 dozen tins.

SECTION F.—PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

During 1945 there was an outbreak of Measles and Whooping Cough, the former affecting 76 persons and the latter 22. As is usual with Measles, the individuals attacked were mainly in the 1 to 9 age group, but a surprisingly large number of older persons also suffered in this epidemic. Apart from these two diseases the occurrence of notifiable conditions was negligible.

ANALYSIS OF TOTAL NOTIFIED CASES, ACCORDING TO AGE.

<i>Disease</i>	<i>Age of Patient</i>														
	0-1	1-2	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	6-7	7-10	10-15	15-20	20-30	30-40	Over 40	Unknown	Total
Measles	1	6	7	6	7	6	9	10	7	8	4	1	1	3	76
Whooping Cough	—	—	2	2	6	1	2	8	—	—	—	1	—	—	22
Pneumonia ...	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	2
Diphtheria ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	1
Ophthalmia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Neonatorum ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1

DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION.

The state of immunisation of the child population of the district at the end of 1945 is indicated in the table below.

<i>Under 5 years of age.</i>		<i>Between 5 and 15 years of age</i>	
<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage of group</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percentage of group</i>
179	44.6%	519	68.7%

The unsatisfactory response to the Diphtheria Immunisation scheme which was noted in the report for 1944, continued during 1945. It became clear, however, from enquiries which were made to ascertain the reason for parental indifference, that mothers living in remote cottages experienced difficulty in bringing young children to the clinics even when these were held at the nearest school. The introduction of general practitioners to the Council's scheme may improve the position inasmuch as they can, where necessary, immunise in the home.

Proposals to this end will be place before the council early in 1946.

TUBERCULOSIS.

At the end of 1945 the Tuberculosis Register contained the names of 10 males and 14 females who normally reside in the Council's area.

During the year, nine new cases were notified on account of Pulmonary Tuberculosis and two on account of the presence of the disease in parts of the body other than the lungs.

During the same period 6 deaths occurred from this disease.

PRINCIPAL CAUSES OF DEATH (all ages).

<i>Disease.</i>				<i>Male.</i>	<i>Female.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Tuberculosis	...	...	...	3	—	3
Influenza	...	...	...	—	2	2
Cancer (all forms)	...	...	...	3	15	18
Heart and Blood Vessels	...	...	...	7	11	18
Bronchitis and Pneumonia	...	...	...	2	1	3
Diseases of Digestive System	...	...	...	—	2	2
Nephritis	...	...	...	1	2	3
Congenital Defects	...	...	...	2	1	3
Violence	...	...	...	1	3	4

